

Application No. 10/009,226  
Paper Dated March 30, 2004  
Reply to USPTO Correspondence of December 31, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 4521-011622

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 4 after the heading SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, which was added by way of a Preliminary Amendment, filed November 8, 2001, with the following paragraph.

--It is ~~thus the problem~~ an object of this invention to provide a method for detecting TSE-induced pathologic changes in tissues. Said changes may be caused by scrapie, BSE, or any other of the TSE diseases. ~~This problem~~ This objective is solved according to achieved by the present invention by in the following steps: (a) directing infrared radiation to onto a tissue sample ~~and with pathologic changes caused by TSE~~, recording its the spectral characteristics after ~~irradiation and interaction with the sample~~; (b) comparing and classifying the infrared spectra spectrum thus obtained ~~with against~~ a reference database containing infrared spectra of TSE-infected tissues and non-infected tissues; and (c) classifying the infrared spectrum as a spectrum obtained from TSE-infected or non-infected tissues--